

Part 1

STOWE SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT

Background

The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 places a duty of care on all employers in respect of the health, safety and welfare of their employees. The Stowe Group's duty extends to pupils, visitors, contractors and others who may be affected by the Group's activities. Overall responsibility lies with the School Governors, but day to day management responsibility is delegated to the School's Executive. Stowe Group, and its partners, gives the highest priority to ensuring that health and safety is treated as a collective responsibility, and seeks to achieve exemplary standards in compliance with the 1974 Act and other related legislation. Our commitment is to ensure that health and safety is embedded in all activities undertaken by the Group.

Responsibility

We have vested specific responsibilities for the overview of health and safety in one member of the Governing Body, the "Group Health and Safety Governor". This Governor will ensure that the Group's responsibilities are properly discharged through the appropriate person at each individual school. The Group Director of Operations and Estates Chairs the Group Health and Safety Committee meeting, which also includes the Group Health and Safety Governor, Group Health, Safety and Compliance Manager and the Operations Director from each Prep School.

Each School will also hold its own Health and Safety Committee meeting, which will meet once termly. These meetings are chaired by the Operations Director from each School and the Health and Safety Governor will also attend where possible. Each department within the School is represented on these committees, which is the formal channel for addressing health and safety issues. A termly report is reviewed by the Group Governing Body and our performance is subjected to independent audit at least every three years.

Policy

It is our policy, so far as is reasonably practicable, to ensure that:

- Premises and facilities provided by the Group are maintained in a safe condition.
- Equipment and procedures of work, together with arrangements for use, handling and storage of articles and substances for use at work, are safe and without risk to health.
- Colleagues are informed, trained, and supervised to secure their safety and that of pupils who may be affected by their actions.
- All working environments are safe and any risks to the health of colleagues, pupils, visitors, and others are minimised.
- Adequate arrangements are made for the welfare of all colleagues.

Duty of Colleagues

All colleagues have a duty to:

- Take reasonable steps to ensure their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their actions or omissions at work.
- Respect procedures and instructions given for the purposes of health and safety.

Report any concerns or breaches of the Health and Safety Policy to their Line Manager or to the Group Health,
 Safety & Compliance Manager.

Signed

Head of Stowe Group .:

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